GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2794
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2003
ASSISTANCE TO JEWELLERY EXPORTERS
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is providing any financial assistance to the exporters of Gem and Jewellery;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria being adopted in this regard;

(c) the amount of financial assistance provided to the exporters during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the jewellery exporters from West Bengal have sought any financial assistance from the Ministry during this year;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the response of the Ministry thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) to (c) : At present, Government is providing financial assistance to the exporters of the Gem & Jewellery under the Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme.Assistance is provided for participation in Trade Fair/Exhibition/ Buyer Seller Meets (BSMs)/Trade Delegation and Publicity abroad in general countries and Focus Areas viz. Latin American Countries (LAC), Africa and focus countries of CIS region as specified in MDA code.Assistance would be permissible on travel expenses by air, euro rail etc., in economy excursion class fair @ 90% for exporters having valid SSI registration certificate and 75% for others including merchant exporters subject to an upper ceiling of Rs. 60,000/- per tour (Rs. 90,000/- for Focus Areas) per participation in Export Promotion Council (EPC) etc. led trade delegations and Buyer Seller Meets (BSMs) abroadAssistance is also permissible on travel expenses by air and / or charges of the built up furnished stall, electricity and water charges @ 90% for SSI exporters and 75% for others including merchant exporters for participation in trade fair/exhibitions abroad subject to an upper ceiling of Rs.1,10,000/- per participation (Rs.1,40,000/- for Focus Areas). Exporters having an export turnover of Rs.4 crore or less in the preceding financial year are eligible for MDA assistance on the above prescribed scales. However, Exporter having an annual export turn over more than Rs.4 crore in preceding financial year will be eligible to avail MDA assistance for two participation in International Trade Fair/Exhibitions/Council`s sponsored BSMs only on charges of built up furnished stalls for display of products on percentage basis and upper financial ceilings as mentioned in the MDA code. MDA assistance is given to exporters on reimbursement basis through concerned EPCs/Boards etc.

MDA funds released to the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), Mumbai, a representative body of the trade, fo disbursement to the member exporters against their approved activities during the last three years are as under :-

Year	MDA funds released
2000-2001	Rs. 55,000/-
2001-2002	Rs. 42,00,000/-
2002-2003	Rs. 2,48,25,000/-

Since MDA funds are released to Export Promotion Councils, State-wise figurres are not available.

(d) to (f) : As per the GJEPC, for the financial year 2003-2004, three exporters from West Bengal had applied for the grant under MDA for participation in Trade fair/exhibition. However, no MDA funds have been released to GJEPC for disbursement to the Member exporters against their approved activities during this year, so far.